

INFORMATION REPORT

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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NOFORN

COUNTRY North Korea

REPORT

SUBJECT Hwap'yong Mine and Sangnong Mine

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION.

and Sangnong mines

the Hwap'yong

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GROUP 1  
EXCLUDED FROM AUTOMATIC  
DOWNGRADING AND  
DECLASSIFICATION

STATE	X	ARMY	X	NAVY	X	AIR	X	NSA	X	OCR	X	DIA	X	AID	
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NOFORN1. Hwap'yong Mine:

Located at Hwap'yong-ni, Huch'ang-gun, Chagang-do and a second-grade enterprise in North Korea. It was the first copper mine that was ever exploited in North Korea prior to the discovery of the Kapsan Mine. The vein is not in pocket-form as it is in the Kapsan Mine, but there is a long narrow strip containing 10 percent of copper. The rocks in this area are very hard, so there is little danger of falling of roof during excavation and mining and no supporting poles are necessary. The high mountain range slopes rapidly, so little water leaks into the pits in small drops, making it easy to drain the puddles.

2. Sangnong Mine:

Located in Sangnong-ni, Hoch'on-gun, Hamgyong-namdo and a 4th grade enterprise in North Korea. [redacted] 5th Survey Unit of Geological Survey

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Management Bureau, Ministry of Heavy Industry commenced exploration of mineral ores in this area, [redacted] the Sangnong Mine started operations

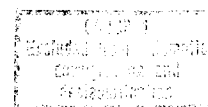
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as a 4th grade enterprise with the following working staff: Manager, chief engineer, mining department, dressing department, construction department, accounting department, planning department, labor department, general affairs department, and staff department housed in buildings which had been built by the 5th Survey Unit, Geological Survey Bureau, Ministry of Heavy Industry.

[redacted] no ore was mined, but work was continued on the

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construction of residences, restoration of the dressing plant and excavations for mining. However, the following bottlenecks developed: The distribution

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of mineral veins are found under the bottom of the Hoch'on-gang, and draining of the leaking water is a problem. Moreover, the future transportation of ore will have to be done not through level passages but through shafts and inclines which will raise the cost of production of ore by one-third as compared with those in the Kapsan Mine. On the other hand it has advantages in transportation facilities and power supplies because the railway line running from Tanch'on to Hoch'on-gang and the No. 3 Generating Plant of the Hoch'on-gang Power Station can be reached very easily.

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